



1997-01-16

Chanticleer | Vol 45, Issue 2

Jacksonville State University

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Jacksonville State University, "Chanticleer | Vol 45, Issue 2" (1997). *Chanticleer*. 1190.
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THE CHANTICLEER

January 16, 1997

Jacksonville State University

Volume 45, Issue 2



FEATURES • PAGE 11

IN THE News

SAN FRANCISCO - The recent resurgence of cigar use in the U.S. is attracting increasing numbers of college students. Now a backlash is igniting in some cities. San Francisco health officials say they're trying to send a message that cigars are not chic with a new ad campaign that likens cigars to dog poop. Alyonik Hrushow, director of the dept's Tobacco-Free Project, told the San Francisco Chronicle that, "We're trying to denormalize the use of tobacco."

CASSOPOLIS, Mich. - Three former Southwestern Michigan College basketball players accused of raping a woman after a Halloween party and recording it on videotape will stand trial for sexual misconduct. The three students - Donald Thomas and Ortez Glaze, both 18, and Sherman Williams, 19 - were identified by their former coach, Steve Proefrock.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Mayor Marion Barry vowed to fight "to the death" deep cuts in predominantly black University of the District of Columbia's budget. The city's financial control board ordered UDC to close its \$16.2 million budget gap. Barry claims that the school was singled out for cuts because it is predominantly black makeup. The city denies any such claims.

SEATTLE - While most of us still haven't recovered from New Year's Eve 1997, many are already thinking ahead to the turn of the century. On the Internet, a new site - www.everything2000.com - is dedicated exclusively to New Year's 1999 festivities. It contains a list of New Year's Eve events planned around the world, from the Acropolis to the Eiffel Tower.

compiled by **Thomas Webb**
Chanticleer writer

Sides clash over chemical hazards

by **Tim Lockette**
Contributing Editor

"At 1249 Calhoun County EMA was notified by Anniston Army Depot that 5 leaking M 55 rockets (agent GB) were detected in igloo G402A." So reads a fax, dated January 14, given to *Chanticleer* reporters by County Commissioner Eli Henderson at the public meeting on incineration held Tuesday night at the Anniston City Meeting Center.

Henderson heads an organization called the Committee to Rid Calhoun County of Toxic Chemicals, a pro-incineration group which handed out bumper stickers at the meeting. "We (the Commission) get two or three reports (from Anniston Army Depot) like this a week," says Henderson. "I spent 10 years working at the Depot

wearing a gas mask, and I can tell you that you can't get nerve agent out of wood, or the ground, or metal once it's released." Like many local residents, Henderson believes in doing away with Calhoun County's nerve gas stop pile as quickly as possible — and incineration, he says, is the quickest and safest way.

Not all Calhoun Countians agree with that analysis. The two sides clashed — mostly indirectly — during the meeting, through often sharp questions directed toward the panel of government officials in charge of the event. "I spent six years in the Marine Corps and I know how the government works," JSU student Tilghman Turner said to the panel, "And you'll have to excuse me when I say the government says it's going to look out for our interests, because they're not ...



A local citizen questions incineration

What they're going to do is, they're going to burn what we have here, and then they're going to start bringing everybody else's stuff and start burning it too ... (and) our local EMA (Emergency Management Agency) has said that in the event of a release, they couldn't get everybody out."

EMA representative Lee Helms admits that "we may not be ready,

See **Chemical** page 3

Students speak at incinerator meeting

by **Jennie Ford**
News Editor

JSU students and professors alike turned out to express their opinions about Anniston's proposed incinerator project Tuesday night at the Anniston City Meeting Center. Local, state and national representatives of various government agencies as well as representatives of the US Army were on hand to answer questions and take comments from concerned citizens.

Holly Blades, a JSU freshman, addressed the panel and expressed **concerns over the proposed incinerator**. Blades' main concerns were the safety of her family and friends and the safety of future generations. When asked if she would stay in the community after graduation, Blades replied, "I sure don't want to stay if this is

built."

Also present in the audience were sisters of JSU's Zeta Tau



Students and faculty stand to voice their opinions on incineration.

Alpha sorority and brothers of Sigma Phi Epsilon. These students helped Professor Rufus Kinney to distribute leaflets against the proposed incinerator along with buttons reading "NO MORE EMELLES! NO INCINERATOR!"

Kinney, of Families

Concerned About Nerve Gas Incineration, also addressed the panel. He said that JSU's students are the "future professional and civic and political leaders of this community, the future parents of this community and you'll [the panel] be answering to them real soon if we have this incinerator." Kinney also spoke of a survey done in May 1996 by JSU's College of Business by the request of the Citizen's Advisory Commission on incineration. Of the 500 people contacted in Calhoun and Talledega Counties 60% were opposed to the project while 13% were in favor and 27% were undecided. Kinney believes these results of the survey are a "mandate against incineration." He also called for a

See **Incinerator** page 4

CAMPUS CRIME DOCKET

1/12/97 JSU reported a DUI and possession of marijuana and drug paraphenalia at Winn Place Apartments
 1/12/97 Roderick Blake Read, 23, of Wellington, AL was arrested at Winn Place Apartments and charged with DUI, possession of marijuana, and drug papaphenalia.
 1/10/97 Mary Johnson Lundy reported harassment at Jack Hopper Cafeteria.
 1/10/97 Anthony Ray Jackson reported criminal mischief at Campus Inn Apartments
 1/9/97 Terri Denise Hawkins reported theft of property at Wallace Hall.
 1/7/97 Margie F. Harmon reported criminal mischief at the TMB.
 1/6/97 Anthony Donnell Hill reported theft of lost property.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

•Jacksonville State University's Art Department will present an exhibit titled "Landscapes of the Southwest" featuring the works of Jean George from Tuesday, January 14 to Friday, January 24 in Hammond Hall Gallery. Hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The exhibit is free and the public is invited.

•A student directory will be printed only for students in university housing and contain only housing students' names and on-campus telephone numbers. If you wish to be omitted from this directory, please go to the Admissions Office and fill out the necessary form no later than January 17, 1996.

•Several sessions will be held starting Jan. 16 and continuing through March 14 for students who want to apply for financial aid for the 1997-98 academic year. The sessions will be held at the Roundhouse at January 16, 5:00-6:00 p.m.; January 29, 3:00-4:00 p.m.; February 24, 10:00-11:00 a.m.; and March 14, 10:00-11:00 a.m. Applications are available now in the Financial Aid Office, 203 Bibb Graves Hall. The preference deadline to apply for the next academic year is March 15, 1997.

•The Office of Minority Affairs will sponsor several events celebrating Martin Luther King Week. Please contact the Office of Minority Affairs at 782-5886 for more information concerning these events.

THE CHANTICLEER

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The Chanticleer, the student newspaper of Jacksonville State University, is produced by students. The editor in chief has the final decision on editorial content. Editorials are the opinions of the editorial staff unless otherwise stated. The editor in chief reserves the right to edit for content and space. Funding is provided through advertisements and University appropriations. Our office is located in 180 Self Hall. We can be reached at 782-5701, and our advertising director can be reached at 782-5712. Our e-mail address is newspaper@student-mail.jsu.edu

The Chanticleer • January 16, 1997

SGA looks to fill Senate seats

by Thomas Webb
News Writer

Christian LeBlanc, the new JSU Senate president, presided over the first meeting of the semester. The SGA meeting was pretty much cut-and-dry, with both Senate and student attendances at surprising lows.

According to LeBlanc there are six to seven seats open on the senate. He says these seats need to be filled as soon as possible, and interested students should request an application at the SGA offices on the fourth floor of the TMB. He also reminded those present that there would be no meeting next week due to the Martin Luther King holiday. The next meeting, on January 27, would be in the committee form that the SGA introduced last year.

Second Vice President Angel Narvaez announced that the SGA is planning to have a major concert event for the spring. He says that student input as to the nature of the event is encouraged. Narvaez also mentioned that

meetings to plan Casino Night will hopefully start soon.

The SGA voted to suspend the rules for the new business. The motion to suspend passed, but not unanimously. Bills 30 and 31 appointed two new senators, Kellie Penland and Mike Eichorn, to fill vacancies. Both bills unanimously passed.

Bill 32 sought to appoint Doug Woodward as president pro tempore of the senate. At the meeting Senator Njie Nyang questioned the motives behind the appointment, asking whether convenience or merit was behind the choice. LeBlanc, the bill's sponsor, defended his appointment saying that he felt Woodward was the best person for the job. The bill passed, although three opposed the bill.

Bill 33 appointed Hylan Bishop as committee chair for the Organizations Council. Bill 34 appointed Heather Brackman as Director of Publicity. Commenting on her new job, Brackman said, "I took over Allen Reynolds



SGA met for its first session. job. I'm working on a calendar for February . . . [with] some good ideas." Both bills passed without opposition.

SGA President Bob Boyle said that he would try to get new JSU head football coach Mike Williams to attend one of the meetings, so that he could meet the student leadership. Boyle also announced that the Board of Trustees would meet January 22 at 10:00 a.m. on the 11th floor of the Library. He also congratulated Pam Robertson, who was crowned Miss JSU last Saturday.

There was no student body report. The only old business was a bill to appoint LeTondra Davis as senator. As Ms. Davis was unable to be present this week, the bill was tabled until the next meeting. The meeting was then adjourned.

Jacksonville City Council: "a lot going on"

by Tim Lockette
Contributing Editor

"As is usual for the beginning of the year, we've got a lot going on," said Mayor George Douthit at Monday's City Council Meeting. "We're spending a lot of money and we've got to slow down on that, but we've got a lot of utility work that needs doing."

Among the new years' items of business was the approval of nine official city holidays, as well as the reappointment of a number of city employees. The Council passed a resolution in support of the WAC Foundation, which is pushing to keep the WAC Museum at Ft. McClellan.

The Council also scheduled a meeting to receive bids for the investment of \$3,000,000 in proceeds from the sale of Jacksonville Hospital. The meeting will be held at 10:30 a.m. on January 27. At the Council meeting to be held at 7:00 p.m. on January 27, the Council will consider a liquor license for The Stumble In on Pelham Road.

Also passed was a resolution to request the State Legislature to change the terms and election dates for Board of Education members — terms are presently five years long, whereas most public offices are up for re-election in even numbered years. "We'll work with the Board and the legislative delegation on this one," said Mayor Douthit,

"We're hoping they'll end up with four years, but they might end up with six."

In closing remarks, they Mayor addressed the problem of leaf cleanup in the city, and urged local residents to co-operate with city workers by sorting rocks and pieces out of their leaf piles, a practice which should speed collection. "And they should bring them leaves to the curb, too," Douthit said.

Douthit reported that construction on the new Jacksonville High School is about 25% complete. "It's coming right along, it looks like a high school now, and it's real big." The school is expected to be ready to open in spring or early summer of 1998.

Chemical from page 1

we're not totally ready to say that we could evacuate all these people today." — an admission which fires debate on both sides of the issue. "What will they do to ensure that there's not another Ground Zero in our backyard?" said resident and 23-year Army veteran Joe Frisbie. "Let's burn the dad-blame things and get it over with."

The primary issue between the two sides centers around the problem of dioxins,—toxic agents which will be released into the air with incineration. The government admits that dioxins are harmful, and that they will be a byproduct of "demilitarization," but asserts that the health risks of these emissions will be minimal. Proponents of incineration say that the risk of keeping

chemical warheads in the local area outweighs the possible health effects. "We need to be concerned," said one speaker, "about M55 rockets that could be destroyed all in one high-order incident like a plane crash or terrorist attack."

Yet some claim that negative health effects can already be seen in the area around the Depot. "My land connects with Bynum," said 43-year resident Larry Adams. "My fish have tumors on them. I'm not mad and I'm not your enemy, but I think there's a safer way." Other speakers alleged that dioxin levels in the environment are approaching danger range.

"A 1994 study shows current levels at levels where you begin to see effects," admits EPA representative Alec McBride, but he says

that the dioxin levels created by incineration would be "very small compared to your current exposure."

Anti-incineration activist Jane Kline told the panel about her experience at a public meeting on the subject last year. "After (the meeting), one particular man ... from the Pentagon ... stopped me in the hallway, and this man said to me...that I was the Army's worst nightmare," Kline claims. "(He said) that we should continue to fight this, that he was a chemist and he was a family man, and he would not let anybody burn this crap over our heads... Another thing he said was — and I don't understand what he meant by this — he said we were on the right track in dismantling these things and then doing something."

"This is the best country in

the whole world!" a member of the crowd interjected, sparking shouts of support and rebuttal in the audience. Heckling from both sides broke out often during the meeting, heckling which sometimes became personal. "How much is Saddam Hussein paying y'all to kill us all?" said one pro-incineration speaker to incinerator opponents.

Citizens' concerns allowed the panel few moments of rest. Asked about the possibility of future evacuation drills, EMA representative Helms said: "We are not to the point that we would try to move people physically in an exercise... we don't know that we would physically move people." When a citizen asked about possible low-level nerve gas emissions from the incinerator,

Army Environmental Protection Officer Drew Lyle stated that "all those substances are potentially to be emitted."

Many in attendance, however, seemed to feel that citizen complaints distracted from the business at hand. "We all need to get serious about what we're discussing here," said one speaker, a former Depot worker, "I don't want us to get emotional about it, I don't want us to talk about people and their ability to do jobs. I feel hurt that someone would come and talk about the United States of America and (say) that you can't trust the Army...Let's don't put on a show, let's be real and know there is a danger right now. We need to do something, and we need to do it as soon as possible."

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ORGANIZATIONAL NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SIGMA PHI EPSILON

Congratulations to our twelve new members and to our new officers.

DELTA CHI

Congratulations to our twelve new members and our new officers: Dusty Kilgore, President; Shane Robinson, V.P.; Travis Merrell, Secretary; Richard Creel,

Alumni Secretary; and Chris Fuller, Sergeant-at-arms.

KAPPA SIGMA

Congrats to our new brothers. Everybody is encouraged to rush this semester.

ALPHA TAU OMEGA

ATO congratulates its new brothers.

ALPHA PHI OMEGA

Alpha Phi Omega, the co-ed national service fraternity, would like to congratulate Vanessa Askew, Nicole Baugh, Marcelo Oliviera, and Scott Smith for completing the 1996 Fall Pledge Education Semester.

We will be conducting its Spring 1997 Rush from Tuesday January 14 to

Sunday January 19. There will be an information table on the 4th floor TMB from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Thursday. Friday, brothers will be having our first project on the Quad. The Pledge Party will be at the Alumni House at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday. The formal Pledge Ceremony will be at the Alumni House at

7:00 p.m. on Sunday. If you are interested, please come by any of these events or call Melanie at 435-1587.

We would like to thank the students and faculty of Jacksonville State University who generously contributed a total of \$81.96 to our Penny Drive to send delegates to our National Convention. We were able to send two delegates.

Incinerator from page 1

referendum on the project. Kinney accused the panel of being the "environmental managers of the state with the worst environmental record of the 50 United States."

Kinney like many of the other citizens at the meeting posed the question: why incineration? Incinerator opponents want the Army to look into an alternative process known as "neutralization". Kinney says, "Maryland, Kentucky, and Indiana all decided that

they did not want an incinerator and would not stand for one and will have alternative methods of destruction instead of incineration."

One student at the meeting did voice his support of the incinerator project. Ron Turner, a JSU senior, believes that, "we need to get rid of it (the chemical stockpile)." Dr. Jerry Gilbert, a JSU professor, says that speaking as a citizen, he is also in favor of incineration as a means

of destroying the munitions stored at the Anniston Army Depot. Gilbert feels that

"We need to get rid of it (the chemical stockpile)."

the alternate ways of destroying the munitions would have to go through the "same process and would face the same opposition."

Gilbert also questions the bias of the action groups and their research findings, which he says do not support the findings of the scientists hired by the Army to research the best ways to destroy chemical weapons.

Tuesday night's meeting was not the first time that students have expressed concern about the proposed incinerator. In November 1995 the SGA unanimously passed a resolution against the incinera-

tor and lobbied Congressman Glenn Browder for support.

A public hearing is scheduled to be held January 28 at 7 PM at the Anniston City Meeting Center. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) will consider public comment until February 11, 1997. It will then decide whether or not to grant Westinghouse the permits necessary for construction.

Anti-affirmative action measure blocked by U.S. District Judge

by Colleen DeBaise
College Press Services

SACRAMENTO, Calif - A federal judge has blocked enforcement of an anti-affirmative-action measure in California until its constitutionality can be decided in court.

Proposition 209, among other things, stops college admissions offices from considering an applicant's race or gender. On Election Day, 54 percent of Californians voted in support of the ban.

But U.S. District Judge Thelton E. Henderson wrote in a preliminary injunction Dec. 23 that the measure probably is unconstitutional. He said civil-rights groups that had brought the lawsuit "have demonstrated a prob-

ability of success on their claim that Proposition 209 violates the 14th Amendment's equal protec-

"We will endeavor to do everything possible to avoid further changes during the admissions cycle."

tion guarantee to full participation in the political life of the community."

Earlier, Henderson had blocked the ban from going into effect with a restraining order. The preliminary injunction carries more legal weight, ensuring that enforcement is blocked until the case goes to trial—which could take months.

The order applies to all state and local government bodies, including the

University of California. As a result, University of California officials said they will consider race and ethnicity as they sift through the application of 70,000 students who applied to the system's nine campuses for admission next fall.

Richard Atkinson, UC's president, said he believed the admissions process would be completed by March, which is expected to be well before there's any ruling on Proposition 209. "We will endeavor to do everything possible to avoid further changes during the admissions cycle," Atkinson wrote to the chancellors of the UC campuses.

Henderson's ruling was applauded by the coalition of civil-rights groups, including the American

Civil Liberties Union and the National Organization of Women, that had filed suit against Proposition 209.

"The Federal Courts have long stood as a bulwark in the protection of equal rights for women and minorities in this country," ACLU attorney Ed Chen said.

The elimination of affirmative action programs would cripple the ability of women and minorities to seek remedial action from state and local government, said Theodore Wang, of the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights.

"Proposition 209 would have cut women and minorities out of the political process," Wang said. "This decision restores to women and minorities the ability to

use affirmative action to counteract existing discrimination."

Lawyers for the state,

"Proposition 209 would have cut women and minorities out of the political process."

however, had argued that Proposition 209 actually bans discrimination. The measure state: "The state shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education or public contracting."

see 209 page 5

More special education teachers needed in work force

by Colleen DeBaise

College Press Services

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind.—

Thousands of teaching positions remain unfilled each year because there are not enough college grads with a degree in special education.

That's according to Purdue University's School of Education, which estimates that nearly 25,000 special ed positions in K-12 each year are vacant or filled by teachers who are not fully certified in special education.

"There always are vacancies in special education," says Nita G. Mason, director of placement, advising and recruiting in Purdue's School of Education.

The National Center for Education Statistics reported that for 1992-93, the most recent year for which it has figures, there were only about 8,600 new graduates nationwide who earned bachelor's degrees in special education.

Nationally, starting salaries for undergraduates who have

degrees in special education average \$21,923, while someone with a master's degree and no experience in special education can start at \$23,956.

Despite the large demand for special-ed teachers, however, their starting salaries are the same as other classroom teachers because teacher unions and school districts set the scale, Mason said.

When a school can't find someone specifically trained in special education, it can

hire people limited licenses, Mason said. The license permits a teacher with expertise in another area, such as elementary education, to teach special education for a limited time.

Margo Mastropieri, professor of special education at Purdue, says approximately 12 percent of all students ages 6-21 have a disability classified from mild to severe. Mild encompasses those with specific learning disabilities; severe includes children with physical dis-

abilities as well as those who are developmentally delayed. Special ed students also might have sensory disabilities, such as blindness or deafness.

"Special education teachers need to be familiar with characteristics of these students, be capable of adapting instruction for students with disabilities, and be able to manage classroom behavior of such students," Mastropieri said.

209 from page 4

Gov. Pete Wilson, an advocate of Prop 209, criticized Henderson's decision, calling it "absurd" that the state can prohibit discrimination against some races but not all races.

Attorney General Dan

Lungren announced that the state would appeal the decision.

Henderson, who is black and regarded as a liberal judge, has denied accusations that his decisions are based on personal beliefs

rather than the law. In handing down his decision, he cited a 1982 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that blocked an anti-busing measure in Washington state, on the grounds that it was discriminatory because it prevented

minorities from seeking remedial action from local school boards.

University of California regents had decided to phase out the use of racial preference in the admissions beginning with the spring

1998 session. But passage of the Prop 209 in November 1996 prompted the university to carry out the regents' ban on preferences immediately.

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VIEWS

The Chanticleer • January 16, 1997

“There is a problem when a student pays over two-hundred dollars for four or five books and then receives 25% or less at buy-back.”
SEE BELOW

ISSUE OF THE WEEK

Traffic congestion a problem

During the first few weeks of classes, many students sit everyday paying close attention to what's going on in front of them. They watch intently hoping to get a chance to get involved in the action, but instead they sit...and sit...and sit. No, these students are not itching to get involved in some intense classroom discussion. They are instead, hoping against hope that someone will actually let them into the never-ending flow of traffic.

Almost every student who has tried to get from one side of campus to another within the 15 minutes between classes is familiar with the stress and frustration caused by trying to make it to class on time. So, why is it nearly impossible to get into a line of traffic full of fellow students in the same situation? Could it be that in the mad rush to save that extra 20 seconds, we forget that we are often in the same position as those we don't allow to enter? Who knows?

Of course in an ideal world, we would all walk or cycle to class and not have to worry about the congested traffic situation, but face it, we love the convenience and comfort of our cars, so we drive.

Those who have been around this campus for a little while are fortunate enough to know some less traveled routes and are able to take advantage of them. But what about those poor souls stuck in that crawling mass of cars, we should ask ourselves "how difficult would it be to let a couple of people in each day?" After all, we are all a part of "The Friendliest Campus in the South," aren't we?

Beginning next week, the Chanticleer staff will accept submissions for the "Issue of the Week" column. Readers who feel a subject needs to be addressed can either address the subject themselves or present the Chanticleer staff with the topic. We also encourage readers to submit ideas for the "Question of the Week." All submissions will be subject to the same policies as letters to the editor.

Books or rent, that's the question



Jennie Ford
News Editor

Well, it's that time of year again. Classes begin, syllabi are handed out and the one trip that students dread most must be made. That's right, the trip to the bookstore to buy those priceless words of knowledge that can only be gleaned from a textbook. Just when your nightmares about the two dollars you got back for that book that cost more than your rent ended its time again to go and spend the national debt for books that hopefully will be bought back if a new edition doesn't come out or if the bookstore isn't overstocked.

Please don't think that I'm blaming the bookstore staff or the professors. These people cannot help the fact that required books cost so much and that Wallace Books needs to make a profit. But, there is a problem when a student pays over two-hundred dollars for four or five books and then receives 25% or less at buy-back. Many students here only earn minimum

wage (if they work at all) and one entire month's paycheck may not cover the cost of books.

This semester, many of my professors have told the class that the book, because of expense, would not be required. Personally, that saves me money but I think that this is unfair to the students and the professors alike. (At JSU we are blessed with a faculty that for the most part is truly concerned about the welfare of the student body.) Why should professors have to change their teaching methods and why should students be forced to go without a book? I'm sorry to say that we all must suffer for the book companies to profit.

The fact is that we must have books for college and the professors must order them through the campus bookstores. These bookstores are allowed a percentage mark-up which is how they make their money but, somewhere cuts could be made to make the books more affordable. Instead students and the bookstores have a love/hate relationship, students hate the bookstores for taking our money and bookstores love

students because we continue to pay these outrageous prices.

What to do? Well, that is the tricky part. One friend told me we should boycott, but I don't think such drastic measures are called for (yet!!). As Mr. Carter Osterbind, an Associate Professor of Art, pointed out in a letter to the editor in September 1996 the Campus Bookstore has a "Lowest Price Guarantee". The guarantee is that if you are able to find a book at a lower price, our bookstore will match the price or refund the difference if you have already purchased the book. So use this guarantee to your advantage.

In the future maybe the SGA could help. Maybe a discussion between Wallace Books and the JSU SGA and administrators is in order. Let the SGA senators and officers know you want change. Tell your professors, too. Write to President McGee, Dr. David Watts, and to the Chanticleer. Just speak out! And in the mean time to save a little money take the Campus Bookstore up on their guarantee.



Forum

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To: Editor in Chief

I am writing in respon(s)e to your article in (the) December 12th Chanticleer "Discrimination in Minority Affairs?" It is a shame, although not surprisingly, that when an organization puts together a showing and tribute of the African-American race, there is always that one person who has to criticize and nearly degrade the showing. Being an African-American student it saddens me to see one minority trying to bring down another. Susan B. Anthony, Hellen Keller, and Marie Curie who are all great women, can be found in nearly any history book and all students have studied them in the past and present. With the exception of Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X, one does not hear or read about African-Americans or other minorities unless one takes a course specifically in that subject. Very few people know that African-Americans invented washing machin(e)s, air conditioners, lawn mowers, peanut butter, and an African-American performed the 1st open heart surgery. It is hard for me to understand why a display of African-American women would even be discussed in such a manner as you wrote in your article. Instead of criticizing another for achieving what so many died for, why don't you contribute ideas to the Minority Affairs group. We as a society in general have come to(o) far to be pushed back.

-Tamiya Smith, Envi(ro)nmmental Biology

Dear Sir,

I sit here and keep reading over and over again this article on China. Some of it I agree with, but much of it saddens me. I can not believe what I am reading. I too had the opportunity to visit China on the same program which Mr. Lockette has just returned from. I too saw many things which would lead me to believe that many citizens of the People's Republic of China are communist in voice only and not in heart. I personally feel, though I am by no means no expert, that the PRC, like the USSR will become defunct in our lifetime. As long as we do not force our views upon them, as long as we can keep our politicians from messing in the affairs of a country which has not asked for our advice, this transition from a socialistic state to one a little more democratic should go rather smoothly. Our large corporations have set their capitalistic feet down in China's virgin soil, and soon greed will affect more than just the Party leaders. It will also infect the common worker. Have patience. Once enough people taste the sweet evils of our society, they will be hard pressed to resist further temptations. When they finally come forward and say that Deng Xiaoping is dead, a new revolution will occur. It needs no help from a college student and further journalist.

Now to address the reason for this letter, and, I hope, relieve the sickening feeling I have in the pit of my stomach. Mr. Lockette, I understand that your desire is to be a journalist. It is your job as a journalist to uncover the filth and ills of today's society, but you were not there on some journalistic endeavor. You were not there to infiltrate and report on the dark secrets of communist China. You were there as the guest of a foreign nation. You should have been proud of this fact alone and sat back and observed another culture and not tried to force your culture upon them. There is nothing wrong with being against a nation's form of government, even your own. What is wrong is when you are a guest of this nation and you feel it is your duty to promote political dissension on their soil. You said you are not a great believer in prayer. If I were a guest in your house, how would you feel if I always tried to get you to pray, or tried to sway you to my religion? What if you then asked me not to pray in front of you and your children, and I still did? Not only did I keep, but I also kept witnessing to to and your children secretly behind your back? I would be in the wrong and you would probably ask me to leave, after all I am the guest and you are the host. When you were asked not to talk politics anymore you should have respected the wishes of your host.

You were hired to teach these students, not preach to them. I don't know about you, but it always bothers me when my teachers get up on their "soap boxes." It takes away from my learning experience. I too was suckered into teaching an English class while there, and I know there is much more to talk about than politics. Was this some sort of game you were playing? Did you feel like a spy? I know you feel proud for teaching democracy to those poor lost souls, but was it worth it? Do you remember the proud nervousness you felt when you the full realization hit you that you would become one of JSU's ambassadors to China? I stress the word ambassador here. How much did you learn there? I know that I learned more in my six months there than in any two years of formal schooling. It was a great learning experience, wasn't it? Everyone should have this chance, shouldn't they? Well, this may not be an option anymore. The University of Wuhan is thinking of stepping away from the exchange program. Now how many people will not be able to step into the iron rice bowl and experience communism first hand? Worse yet, how many Chinese citizens will not be able to come to this country, witness democracy and capitalism at its finest and then return to their country and tell their friends the wonderful things they saw? Your duty as a US citizen was not to go there and tell them why their government was wrong. Your duty was to go there and live a life that says Americans are good honorable people, it must be a great place in which to live. The next time you travel to another country for such a length of time you will probably be a foreign correspondent. If so, maybe you will remember, and maybe others who read this will remember also, that you are not on American soil. There will be a set of rules that you must live by, but most of all you are a guest and should act like one.

— Thomas Hobgood

Forum is our readers' column. Our policy for letters to the editor should be kept in mind when working on submissions.

- The Chanticleer will not print letters which are libelous and/or defamatory.
- The Chanticleer reserves the right to edit letters for space and grammar as well as style.
- There will be at least two weeks between publication of letters from the same person and we will publish rebuttals no later than two weeks after the publication of the article, editorial, or letter in question.
- The Chanticleer reserves the right to refuse publication of any submission.
- Deadline for submissions is noon Monday, before desired publication.
- Submissions may be brought to the Chanticleer office, sent through campus mail to 180 Self Hall, or e-mailed to newspaper@student-mail.jsu.edu. All submissions must include a name, phone number, and student number for JSU students.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Should people have the right to die?

Compiled by: Tamara Miles



"Yes, under the right circumstances. I believe it should be each person's right."

Jody Vaughan Junior

"No! It should be in God's hands!"



Jennifer Nickles Sophomore



"Yes, with enough 'firewalls' such as treatment for depression, terminal disease, etc. People who really do not wish to die suffering should not have to for the sake of religious views they might not believe in."

Roger Sauterer, Faculty

"Yes. Our most basic rights include freedom of choice."



Shane Christian Graduate



"Yes, because it's their choice and they have to face the consequences."

Marlyss Smiley Freshman

"Yes, there is no reason why a person should have to suffer, especially through a terminal illness."



Chris Zirbel Freshman



"No, absolutely not. If people had the right to die, everyone would be killing each other and saying that the other person wanted to die. It is inhumane."

Jessica Dallas, Freshman

Graduating JSU pianist prepares for competition

by Vanessa Ramirez

Chanticleer writer

Jacksonville State University student Chunli Xu has been busy preparing herself for the Southern Division Piano Competition taking place at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville January 22nd through the 25th. She practices as much as possible, often for several hours a day. Xu believes that "four hours a day may be good enough for everyday practice" but not when she is working towards winning a competition.

"I have been practicing in one long session each evening from 6 to 10 p.m. because of my schedule. But I'm hoping to add some early morning sessions as well as some in the afternoon before the event." This

practice includes perfecting her playing ability through various methods. She often records her lessons and critiques them.

Xu, originally from Sichuan Province, China, came to

"Four hours a day may be good enough for everyday practice"

Jacksonville through the University's International House program. She has been very pleased with her experience at JSU. Xu says that she got support from many people on campus which has allowed her to concentrate on playing the piano.

She will be graduating this spring and will work towards getting both a master's and doctorate degree in music in order to teach at the college level. She is inspired by her instructor, Dr. Patricia Parker, assistant professor of music. "I'd like to thank Dr. Parker. I really learned from her. She's so energetic. . .I've got to be like her."

Xu began playing the piano at the age of thirteen. She says that her parents were her main influence. At first, she needed to be reminded to practice. Now it is part of her life. Sometimes the pressure to practice and perform can become overwhelming and interfere with her studies. Yet, somehow she manages to keep her goals in perspective. She says that "enjoying the composer

I'm practicing at the time," helps in handling the pressure.

She loves to perform. In fact, she states that, "I don't enjoy competitions as much as I enjoy performing, because I love listening to other performers."

Chunli Xu earned her chance to compete in Knoxville after winning the state-level Collegiate Artist Competition at the University of Montevallo. She has won the competition the past three years. In Knoxville, she will have to compete against other state winners of the Southern Division. Meanwhile, she will diligently continue to practice and prepare. If she wins, she will head to Dallas, Texas to compete against other divisional winners at the National Competition.

Student composes piano work inspired by Eliot's "Hollow Men"

by Chris Colvard

Contributing Editor

They say that actions speak louder than words, but what of passions? As it applies to JSU student John Boyd, it appears that his passions could deafen the normal man. Boyd, a JSU Music Education senior, is passionate about many things, but nothing more than music and literature. These passions combined, allowing him to create a piano piece based on the T.S. Eliot work "Hollow Men."

Chris Colvard: What is the main theme behind "Hollow Men?"

John Boyd: "Hollow Men" is a piece he wrote after World War One. He was part of the whole expatriate scene—Ezra Pound, the whole West Bank of Paris, that type of deal. They're kind of like our generation. They were brought up with these haughty ideals, and then the "war to

end all wars" came. The illusion came crashing down and they faced reality, and they decided to move on from there, how to feel better about it.

"Hollow Men"...the way I interpret it, is about apathy and mindlessness. The mob scene, you know, dressing in a certain way because you're hanging out with certain people. It preaches against the dangers of conformist thinking.

CC: You hit upon the theme of apathy. Does the piece reflect the apathy that exists on this campus, or apathy of the nation in general?

JB: As far as national apathy goes, I think that we're not necessarily apathetic as much as we are isolationists. We want to return to America. What we've been doing is sending people to other countries and it's really backfired on us. What the other people don't understand is, why send an American kid want to go over and die in some other country? It doesn't

make any sense. So we (as a nation) are sick of it and want to return to an isolationist ideal, I think. As far as apathy on the campus goes, the problem with the campus is that everyone's got their own thing going. On

"I think art should serve a purpose, and that's to better people."

the weekend, they go away, and they don't think of this as a real school. But if just ten percent more of this school's population thought of it as a real school as a lot of us do, you will find the apathy will go away a lot. I'm involved with the organization with The Southerners, Pep Band, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia where, if you're apathetic, you're kicked out.

If you show you don't give a darn about what we're doing, you're gone.

CC: When we talked yesterday, you mentioned the piece had an arabesque feel. Could you go into some depth on this?

JB: Edgar Allan Poe wrote that there's two types of anguish. There's physical anguish, which is grotesque, and mental anguish, which is arabesque. To me, I see this whole piece, "Hollow Men," as hunger of the soul.

When I think of this thing, all that I can think of is hunger, but not in the physical sense. Hunger in that, your soul is yearning. My vision of Hell would probably be just this big stone room where your soul is unfulfilled. And that's what this thing is about. These people haven't fulfilled themselves then they come to a self realization; they do what everyone else does.

See Music page 10

Music from page 9

To me, that's terrible. I hate when people don't do what they think, what they believe, what they feel. I may hate someone's guts when they come up to me and tells me I'm some big jerk, but I really, really respect and admire them for doing it. That's how I try to live my life.

CC: So, you might say that

you're a man of "passionate action"?

JB: Yeah, actually, passion. What I try to convey to youngsters all the time is that music is passion. Music is a language and it talks to your soul. I can't think of a more passionate art than music, except for maybe literature, and I try to combine the two

in this (piece).

CC: What about your literary influences?

JB As far as what I like to read, Samuel Clemens, American romanticism, transcendentalism, especially transcendentalism because I believe that's talking about "You've got to fulfill your soul." Also (T.S.) Eliot, Ezra

Pound, e. e. cummings, really the whole "feel sorry for yourself." They're not really feeling sorry for themselves, much as they want people to go "yeah," and then go "wait a minute" and they see the light.

CC: So you read works that inspires people to see that light.

JB Right. It is said that "art imitates life" and that's true, but I also think art should serve a purpose, and that's to better people. And that's the way you're going to better people, by making them more action-prone, more passionate, and that's great.

Ear Candy: Sneaker Pimps and Bjork



Sneaker Pimps
Becoming X
Clean Up Records

Sneaker Pimps debut album "Becoming X" is definitely one you need to check out! The music, the vocals, and the lyrics on the album come together to form into one of the best albums I've gotten my hands on recently. The music is slow and flowing and added with the vocals creates a very morose feel to the listening experience.

The best songs on the album are "6 Underground" - Take me down/ 6 underground/ the ground beneath your feet/ Laid out low, nothing to go/ nowhere a way to meet. I've got a head full of drought, down here/ So far off losing out, round here..." -and "Waterbaby"- "Random laid plans/ 40 days of one night stands/ And when you go you go alone/ You walk the cross you made your own..."

All eleven songs on the album are obscure and very interesting. A few songs contain some cool samples and the song "Wasted Early Sunday Morning" is co-mixed by Flood (anyone

ever heard of Nine Inch Nails?). This is a great buy and will make a good addition to any CD collection.

-Sam Dillon



Bjork
Telegram
Elektra Entertainment

Yes! Yes! Yes! Yes!!! If you love Björk and her amazing music (if you don't you're either deaf or dead) then I'm sure you're as excited about this album as I am. Unfortunately it's not all new songs, 8 of the 11 songs on the album are remixes, but who cares, it's Björk! For those of you who need help with the math that means that there are, however, three brand-fanny-spankin' new previously unreleased tracks.

This new album is quite a change from the usual, but in any event, you just can't go wrong with any purchase of the lovely and talented Björk albums. If you didn't know this is her third full-length release. If you don't have her other two albums- "Human Behavior" and "Post"- then you should pick them up when you go to buy Telegram.

The remixes on the album will blow you away. Some of the tracks are hard to recognize but once you do you will be surprised at the direction the songs takes on this second go-round. Another interesting aspect of the remixes on the album is the lack of the traditional vocals. The various people who remixed the songs took some very different avenues when they played with the vocal effects. The album isn't comparable to "Post" or "Human Behavior." They incorporate some outstanding effects both musically and vocally. Those of you listeners who are weary of change should be warned to listen to the album before running off to purchase it. I do feel though that if you are into the art of remixing, then you will really enjoy this latest release.

-Sam Dillon

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TEST DATES	DAY OF WEEK	TIME	LOCATION
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Feb 18	Tuesday	1:30 - 5:30 PM	Rm. 20, Ayers Hall
Feb. 19	Wednesday	5:00 - 9:00 PM	Rm. 20, Ayers Hall
Feb. 22	Saturday	1:30 - 5:30PM	Rm. 20, Ayers Hall

Students may register during normal working hours at Ayers Hall, Room 144.

Arts & Entertainment

The Chanticleer • January 16, 1997

Jacksonville - Junction of Blues and Soul

Sam Dillon
A&E Editor

Blue Soul has been together for about two years. They recently re-acquired their original drummer and have been back together and practicing for two months, working on new material and getting ready to start playing soon. Blue Soul is: Chris Simms, lead vocals and guitar; Joseph Duke, vocals and guitar; Joshua Moehr, vocals and bass; and Brant Benefield, drums.

Sam Dillon: Are you from Jacksonville?

Blue Soul: Not originally, but we are in the process of getting everyone in the area. Josh goes to JSU and I (Chris) work at the Acoustic Cafe doing repairs and giving guitar lessons. Jacksonville is a great location because it's centralized between Nashville, Birmingham, and Atlanta.

SD: When are you gonna start playing again?

BS: In a month or so. We want to play Nashville, Birmingham, and Atlanta

heavily. We want to play strategically instead of just all the time. First, though, we're sharpening all the edges. We want to get every aspect of the band sharp before we start playing anywhere.

"This time we're gonna make it right."

SD: Do you play or want to play frats or sororities?

BS: Yeah, we have before. We really like to play them and we're looking orward to playing at as many as possible. We want to play our original stuff.

SD: Do you do any covers?

BS: We used to, but since we've been back together, we've just been trying to regroup and do our best to be an original band. We kept a lot of covers we liked to do and trashed the ones we didn't feel comfortable doing.

SD: Who does the songwriting?

Chris S.: We all have equal input into the music, but I mainly do the lyrics.

SD: What are some of your influences?

BS: All blues, Led Zeppelin, various classic rock, all kinds of stuff.

SD: How do your influences influence your sound?

BS: Not very much. We started out with a "Bad Company" sound, but it's nothing like that now. It's different with almost every song. We're a lot more hard-edged. The song 'Can I Be Your Brother' is really rock and roll but we still do a lot of blues, too.

SD: Are you looking to get signed with a label...is Blue



Blue Soul rehearses at the Acoustic Cafe.

Steven Wolfe

Soul a career for all of you?

BS: Yeah. That's what we're doing right now. It used to be a career but not a good one. We were on the road too much, playing four of five nights a week, wasting a lot of money on overpriced U-Hauls,

and coming home with 20 bucks in our pockets. This time we're gonna make it right. We know a lot more now and we know what works and what doesn't.

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Ear Candy: Screeching Weasel and Buzzy Jones...and Patsy Cline?



Screeching Weasel

Bark Like A Dog

Fat Wreck Chords

You can always count on Fat Wreck Chords artists to not only to be talented but to shy away from the norm. Screeching Weasel is no exception, thank you very much. SW's album "Bark Like A Dog" is punk rock with a twist. These guys combine punk with pop and top it all off with a good dose of humor.

Before you even hear the

album you will begin to see the bands comedic flair by just looking through the case insert. Lyrics are provided and it is easy to see that front-

kidding Mr. Wheasel!). SW is punk at its core but they have a pop feel mixed into the music and vocals which comes across very smoothly yet still kicks. Check out the songs "Cool Kids" and "You Blister My Paint." For those of you who love good punk then you really need to hear this band. If you haven't really heard much punk before and are not really interested (shame on you). I think you should give them a listen, you will probably like it. It's never too late to discover that you like different styles of music. Be adventurous!!

-Sam Dillon



Buzzy Jones

To Helmsburg and Back
Surf Records

Question: What do you get when you cross Country, Blues, Folk(we're talking about banging on pots and pans and anything that makes a noise!), Funk, Pop, and Classic Rock?

Answer: Either an incoher-

ent mess or a little-known band from Indiana that goes by the name Buzzy Jones. From other groups this combination might come across as cluttered or forced, but from Buzzy Jones it seems only natural. Their music is a grass roots approach of expressing what is in the soul. Helmsburg is a place in the soul and the imagination where anyone can go to laugh, dance, and sing. Apparently, even Patsy Cline has been known to visit Helmsburg where she shared with Buzzy Jones her classic

"I Fall to Pieces." Their cover is done very well without making a mockery of a very soulful song. However, this is not a band that needs to be carried by one good cover song. Some particularly good tunes on this album include "A Woman's Point Of View", "I'm Bored As Hell", and my personal favorite, "All Power Fall". One bit of warning: You may have to look around to find this album but once you do, you will have your ticket to a better place. See you in Helmsburg.

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SPORTS

The Chanticleer • January 16, 1997

“ We played with a lot of intensity and desire. It was really a game of two halves, ”

SEE BELOW

Gamecock men's basketball gets home TAAC victory

by Shannon Fagan
Sports Writer

After three consecutive road games the Gamecock basketball team returned home and defeated the Campbell Fighting Camels, 76-60, Jan. 11 at Pete Mathews Coliseum. JSU trailed by eight at the half, but the Gamecocks went on a tremendous second half run to secure the victory, improving them to 2-2 in the TAAC and 3-10 overall.

Kenny Sorenson led the way for the

Gamecocks scoring 20 points and hauling down 10 rebounds. Senior guard Aaron Kelley added 17 points for JSU. Rusty Brand chipped in 11 points. The Gamecocks burned the nets in the second half, hitting 55 percent of their shots.

“We put points on the board and had a lot of key players. We played with a lot of intensity and desire. It was really a game of two halves,” Coach Bill Jones said.

See Victory page 15



Lady Gamecock fills many roles in life

by Rebecca Matanic
Sports Editor

She is a basketball player for the Lady Gamecocks, a wife, a U.S. Army Reservist, a psychology major with a 3.8 GPA and a future law student. Kathy O'Konski is only 21 years old, but the 5'11" JSU forward has accomplished a lot in little time, and is determined to do even more.

Born in Florida, but raised in Kansas, O'Konski comes from a family of five children. Her father is an accountant and her mother works as a music therapist for those afflicted with autism and schizophrenia. Although she comes from a very loving family, money was always tight and sports were not encouraged.

“I got my (basketball) start in a church youth group,” she says. “I was the only one in my family to play sports.”

It was in her church youth organization in Olathe, Kansas that Kathy found a love for basketball. “Coach Verholst,” she says. “He got me inspired to play basketball.”

Even though her athletic pursuits were not encouraged by her parents, Kathy dedicated herself to academics and sports. She wasn't sure what she wanted to do after high school and

wasn't aware when she was younger that her athletic skills could pay her college tuition. Living in tight financial conditions, Kathy didn't enjoy many things that her peers took for granted.

“I was 13 before I ever went out to eat,” she says. “Things were tight in my family. There were no designer jeans or shoes. My coaches are the first to take me out to eat.”

It wasn't until her junior year in



Lady Gamecock Kathy O'Konski

Rebecca Matanic

high school that she started to give serious thought about what she wanted to do with her future. “I never really thought about the future,” she says. “The Army recruiter started calling me.” Kathy examined her options with the Army and chose a delayed entry program. She completed her basic training during the summer between her junior and senior years. After graduation she went to Advanced Individual Training as a truck driver.

“It was good for me,” Kathy says referring to basic training and AIT. “It made me straighten up. It requires dedication intensity, focus and discipline.”

After finishing her summer training, Kathy went to Garden City Community College to study psychology and play basketball. Her job or specialty in the Army Reserve was changed and Kathy was trained to be a firefighter.

“Firefighting was probably the most fun thing I've done in the Army.” We trained on structure fires and rescue work on cars,” she says.

After completing two years of community college, Kathy was searching for a university where she could complete her degree and play basketball. She chose JSU, because as she tells it,

Coach Dana Austin was “basically the only one willing to give me a chance.”

“I really wanted to go Division I. When I came down here, it was really a nice feeling. Everybody was so nice. Coach was so cool,” she says. “You're not scared to go up and say what you're feeling.”

Kathy's move to JSU affected many aspects of her life. Her high school sweetheart, Jeff Deal moved to Alabama, and they married May 30, 1996. Her new Army Reserve unit had no firefighter positions, so she received training in a nuclear, biological and chemical skill and her parents became more supportive of her athletic endeavors.

“They're happy now, because they don't have to pay for my college,” Kathy says of her parents.

Kathy says that although being far away from her family is difficult at times, her teammates and Coach Austin and Assistant Coach Tracy Linton make life easier.

“They're good coaches. They take care of me. There is a good chemistry on this team. Everybody gets along, and everybody likes each other. I only see positive things for this team,” she says.

See Roles page 15

Lady Gamecocks suffer two road losses

by **Rebecca Matanic**
Sports Editor

The Lady Gamecocks lost their first conference game of the season to the Lady Camels of Campbell 90-72 Jan. 9 dropping their overall record to 4-6 and 2-1 in the TAAC. JSU trailed by only five points at halftime, 29-24, but a 61 point second half outburst by the host Lady Camels was too much for the Lady Gamecocks to overcome.

Campbell shot a blistering 58 percent from the field in the second half, while JSU hit 18-38 for 47 percent. Campbell was led by center Felecia Autry's 26 points and 18 rebounds. Melissa Harden

led the Lady Gamecocks with 18 points and nine rebounds. Sophomore guard Shneka Whaley added 17 points and four rebounds. Suzan Shirley came off the bench for the Gamecocks and contributed

The Lady Gamecocks dropped their second conference game in a row

13 points including three 3 pointers. Alfredia Seals was the leading rebounder for JSU with 12, but she was unable to produce offensively scoring just four points.

Ashley Moore added 14 points for the Lady Camels. The Gamecocks were out rebounded 48-46 and committed 22 turnovers to Campbell's 15. Campbell converted 28-38 free throws while JSU sank 17 of 27. The victory improved Campbell's record to 6-6 overall.

Lady Gamecocks Lose by Two

The Lady Gamecocks dropped their second conference game in a row when they lost to the College of Charleston 52-50, Jan. 11. Shneka Whaley missed two free throws with 1.2 seconds

remaining to give Charleston the victory.

Alfredia Seals rebounded from a poor offensive outing against Campbell to score a game-high 24 points on 10-16 shooting from the field. Seals also snagged eight rebounds for JSU.

The Cougars were led by forward Jodie Olofson's 18 points and 14 rebounds. The Gamecocks enjoyed a one point lead at halftime, but were unable to maintain their slim advantage. JSU converted 14-21 from the free-throw line while the Cougars only converted four of 12 attempts. The Lady Gamecocks once again had difficulty controlling the ball

committing 23 turnovers as opposed to Charleston's 20. Charleston shot only 38 percent from the field for the game, while JSU converted nearly 42 percent of their shots.

The Lady Gamecocks hope to end their conference slide against Florida International University at Pete Mathews Coliseum tonight at 5 p.m. JSU also hosts TAAC foe Florida International, Saturday at noon.

Coach Dana Austin will sign five programs for every home game. The five lucky people who get these programs may turn them in at the concession stand and receive a free Red and White JSU Basketball.

Former JSU star assists the Lady Gamecocks

by **Rebecca Matanic**
Sports Editor

Tracy Linton was working for the Thomasville, Ga. Housing Authority when she received a phone call from her former Lady Gamecock teammate, Dana Austin who asked her if she would be interested in being the assistant women's basketball coach at her alma mater. Although Linton was competing with several other candidates, Coach Austin decided after interviewing Linton that she was the best person for the job. Linton packed her bags, came back to JSU and has been working as the Lady Gamecock's assistant coach ever since.

"I think I knew her work ethic and character," Austin said of her former teammate. "I knew Tracy would be good for this position."

Linton, a recreation major, graduated from JSU in 1994. While playing for the Lady Gamecocks, the 5'11" forward was named Gulf South Conference Freshman of the Year, Most Valuable Player, GSC Tournament, senior

year, and an Honorable Mention All-American candidate. Linton also holds the JSU single season rebound total and average records. She grabbed a record 365 rebounds for a 12.1 average in the 1990-91 season. Linton's 1530 career rebounds placed her as the women's all-time leading rebounder in the GSC.

"After attending JSU, I knew this was a good school with a good program," Linton says. "Knowing

"Playing professional ball was totally different from college. The practices were hectic. It was fun, though."

Coach Austin helped a lot. This was an opportunity I could not turn down."

Although Linton played for the Gamecocks only a few years ago, she says that she notices some differences in today's women's game.

"It's totally different from when I was playing. There is better competition at this level than at Division II," she says referring to JSU's recent

move to the Division I level. "This conference (TAAC) is going to be a real strong one."

Along with the differences between the division levels, Linton says she is very aware of the increased talent and growth of women's basketball in this country. In elementary school Linton says her basketball heroes were Dr. J and Michael Jordan. Today, Linton says there are more female role models in sports for little kids to look up to.

"Sheryl Swoopes has her own shoes, now," Linton says referring to the former Texas Tech star and Olympian, who has endorsements from Nike. Linton says kids are now exposed to women basketball players like Swoopes and Lisa Leslie and say, "Hey, I want to be like her."

Linton played professional ball in Germany for a year before returning to the States when her mother became ill.

"Playing professional ball was totally different from college. The practices were hectic. It was fun, though."



Tracy Linton now recruits athletes for JSU.

Rebecca

The level of play was much higher than college."

After plans for two professional women's leagues in the United States were announced, Linton said she thought hard about playing in either the ABL or this summer's WNBA, but decided against it. Coaching is something Linton always wanted to do and Coach Austin has given her the opportunity to do so

Along with helping Austin and the players during the season, Linton plays a vital role in recruiting quality student-athletes to JSU. Despite JSU being one of the smaller schools at the NCAA Division I level, Austin and Linton feel the University and the Lady Gamecocks have many selling points including playing time dur-

See Star page 15

Victory from page 13

Campbell was led by forward Jamie Simmons' 14 points. Guard Corey Best contributed 11 points, but it wasn't enough as the Camels suffered their first TAAC loss of the season.

Gamecocks lose to Charleston

The Gamecocks concluded a three-game road trip Jan. 9 with a 90-74 pounding from the College of Charleston. JSU only trailed by two at the half, but the Cougars outscored the Gamecocks 53-39 in the second half.

Cougar forward Stacy Harris scored a game-high 23 points to lead the Charleston charge. Center Thaddeous Delaney put in 15 points for the Cougars. Kenny Sorenson led the Gamecocks with 18 points. Aaron Kelley added 14 points for JSU. Rusty Brand and Jay Knowlton each contributed 12 points for the Gamecocks.

JSU hosts Centenary at 7:30 p.m. today at Pete Mathews Coliseum. JSU also hosts Southeastern Louisiana at 2:30 p.m., Saturday.

Star from page 13

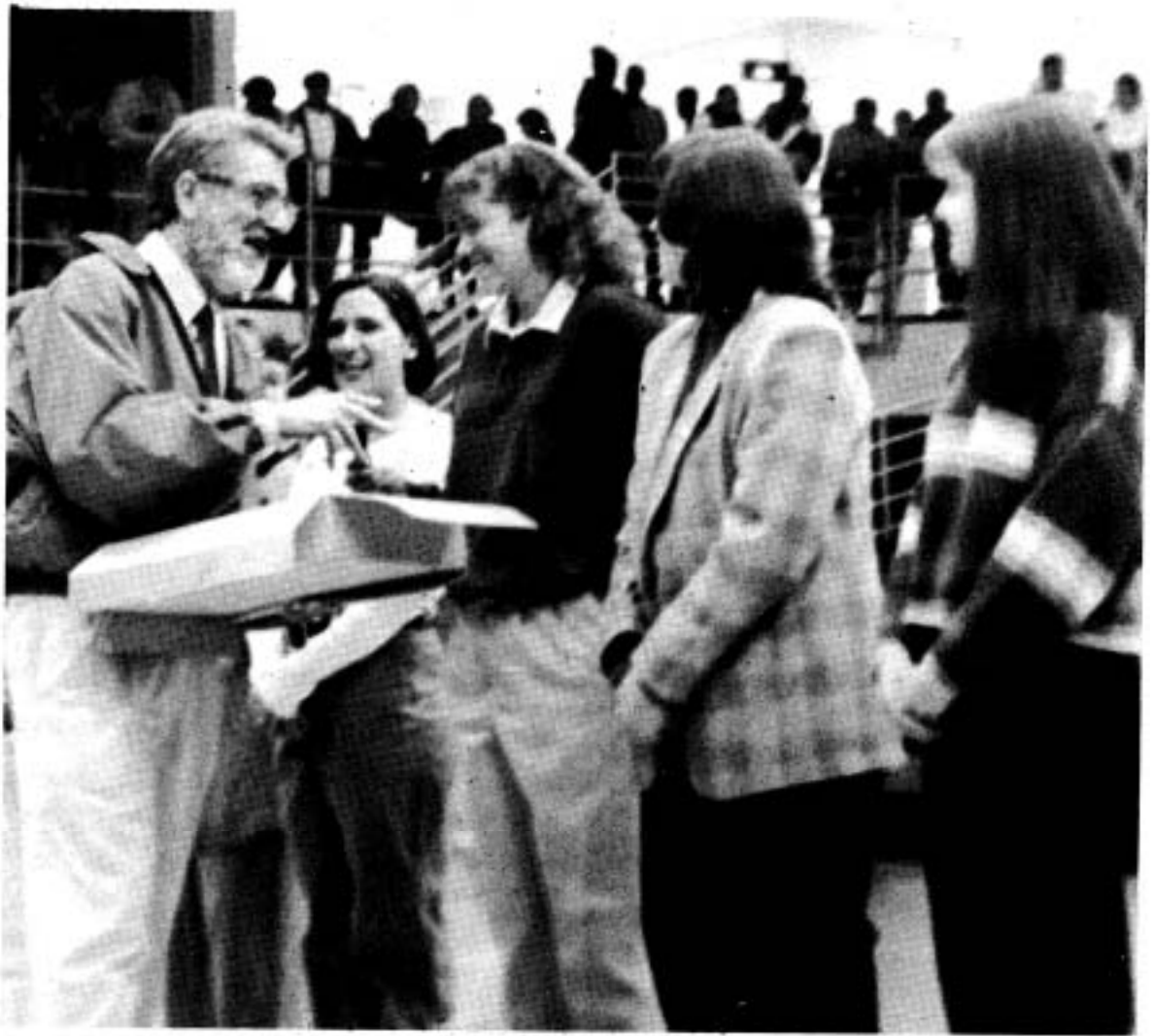
ing the freshman year for quality players, smaller teacher to student ratios and, of course, a friendly campus. Linton, a Georgia native, said she feels those same qualities which influenced her to attend JSU will influence potential recruits.

Victory from page 11

After graduation Kathy plans to go to law school either in Alabama or Kansas. She hopes that the grades she has earned at JSU will lead to scholarships for law school. Her husband, Jeff, is a business major at JSU. Kathy would like to become an FBI agent after finishing law school.



Increase
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Members of the 1996 Lady Gamecock softball team receive their TAAC championship rings during halftime of a recent JSU women's basketball game. (Photo by Rebecca Matanic)



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Dear Prospective Member:

Liberia should have a special place in the conscience of the United States of America. Its impetus to become a nation came from the United States. For 149 years, it was a stalwart ally of the United States. Yet for the past years, as a civil war has taken almost 200,000 lives, displaced more than two-thirds of the population and destroyed its infrastructure, the United States has treated this great tragedy as a regional problem.

Liberia has a unique historical and cultural link to the United States. Settled by African Americans, many of them former slaves, in the early decades of the 19th century, Liberia became a republic in 1847. The United States influence on Liberia is reflected the African nation's constitution, the star and stripes of its red, white and blue flag, the structure of its government, the names of its cities, its schools' curriculum; its official language and the remarkable degree of good will its citizens feel toward America. Through all the major conflicts of the 20th century, Liberians been among the most dependable allies of the United States. In both World Wars, Liberia declared war on the enemies of the United States and offered vital air bases, ports, and natural resources to support the United States military. During the Cold War, Liberia voted with the United States on every significant resolution at the United Nations, It hosted facilities for electronic monitoring and became the largest base for United States intelligence-gathering in Africa.

Yet when Liberia's security was most at risk because of civil conflict the United States government deferred to ECOWAS, an under-funded regional organization composed of some of the world's poorest nations. Half of the \$10 million earmarked by the United States to support a peacekeeping force had not been committed by April 1996. Meanwhile, the cost to the United States of responding to the humanitarian crisis since 1990 has been emergency relief assistance valued at over \$445 million, over \$66 million provided in the past year alone, more than eight times the amount committed to peacekeeping.

In the absence of a viable security plan, the torrent of refugees continues to undermine Liberia's relations with its immediate neighbors. Though the United States has implored those nations to admit Liberian refugees, its own record of Liberian admissions decries the long relationship with that nation.

The approach to achieving peace in Liberia has revolved around the ECOWAS process for six years. This process has, in turn, been dependent on a core group of ECOWAS nations with the will and very limited resources to engage in diplomacy or to commit forces for peacekeeping. Fourteen peace agreements have been largely brokered without the United States and other international parties, such as the United Nations or OAU, present with ECOWAS as working partners at the negotiating table. The result of this agreements and the resources, and leverage, necessary for successful implementation, This failure to produce a concerted approach to all aspects of the peace process, from mediation to negotiation and implementation, produced the tragic results that we have witnessed in Liberia.

On August 17 the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) concluded meetings that provide a new timetable for the peace process. Starting August 20, the warring factions are to observe a cease-fire, dismantle checkpoints and withdraw from zones of combat. The peacekeeping force, expanding from 8500 to 18000 troops, is to deploy throughout Liberia in November. Demobilization is to be completed by January 31, Elections are to be held on May 31 with a turnover to an elected government on June 15. The revised plan calls for sanctions against members of the warring factions that obstruct the peace process. Sanctions include restrictions on travel, freeze on economic activities, exclusion from electoral process, and war crime charges.

Now the United States has another opportunity to assert its international leadership at a critical juncture to ensure that the success of the new peace process. This leadership will not lead to an involvement of United States troops. It does mean that the United States must heighten its diplomatic efforts to help coordinate the process of peace and gather the funding that is necessary for effective peacekeeping and demobilization in Liberia.

The United States should take the necessary steps to ensure that its commitment of \$30 million to support the ECOMOG peacekeeping force is obligated before the end of the fiscal year 1996. While the United States pledge of \$30 million is a step in the right direction it will not alone enable a doubling of ECOMOG to the 18,000 troops necessary for deployment by November. It is vital that the United States provide additional funds to make up this shortfall or take the lead to obtain significant pledges from other donor countries.

A top priority of the United States should be the implementation of a serious program for demobilizing Liberia's combatants. Regretfully, no additional funding has been pledged by the United States to improve what was an inadequately funded and designed demobilization plan. In fact, some of the funds allocated in early 1996 for reintegration of Liberia's 60,000 combatants have been diverted elsewhere. The United States should take the lead in designing a comprehensive demobilization program. This program will not involve United States troops, but should include the resources for every stage of demobilization from encampment to training and counseling of combatants. A contribution of \$20 million (non-food related) from the United States will provide the resources necessary to initiate a wellconceived demobilization program and encourage future contributions from other international donors.

President Clinton and the United States Congress must make Liberia a priority on our foreign relations agenda in Africa. United State leadership is critical if the key elements are to be achieved on schedule under the new peace plan. This leadership will not lead to an involvement of United States troops. It does mean that the United States through its Special Envoy, must heighten its diplomatic efforts to coordinate the implementation of the peace process and gather the additional resources necessary for effective peacekeeping and demobilization.

The United States should strengthen the response of the international community to the needs of the peace process. The foundation for a new international approach to the peace process already exists with the International Contact Group for Liberia, the group of donor countries that have pledged support to the peace process. The concept behind the ICGL should be expanded to a tightly coordinated partnership that includes the United States, ECOWAS, and the United Nations. This high level of cooperation will ensure that scarce resources are effectively utilized.

The outbreak of fighting in Monrovia in April-May of 1996 was the latest in a series of clashes in Liberia's intractable war. During the past nearly seven years, the war has produced shocking humanitarian conditions for Liberian civilians. The most recent fighting exacerbated even further these conditions. Humanitarian assistance organizations have been unable to deliver food and other emergency services because of the fighting in Monrovia. Their resources looted by gangs of combatants and the safety of their relief workers threatened, these organizations closed or dramatically reduced their operations in Liberia.

As a result of the civil war in Liberia, an estimated 800,000 Liberians are internally displaced; another 800,000 are refugees in neighboring countries that are among the poorest in the world. Approximately 50 % of the population in Monrovia, upwards of 350,000 persons, were forced to flee their homes due to the April-May fighting and another 3,000 died. During June-July some 3,300 new cases of cholera were reported in Monrovia and a July survey found malnutrition rates for children in displaced shelters have increased up to 25%.

Now that the dust of the Civil War in Liberia is settling down, an era of a NEW LIBERIA is at hand. Whether anyone likes it or not, an leadership is bound to emerge, supposedly to shoulder the national responsibilities of politics and administration and to ensure the continued survival of the Liberian people and culture.

That such leadership will be genuine and committed is a matter that you as Liberians and friends of Liberia can decide, or at least influence. But choosing national leadership is a serious and difficult business. In Liberia, bombed-out homes and shops are painful reminders of what happens when leaders are chosen unwisely. We cannot allow this to happen again. This is why the Liberian Social Justice Foundation is campaigning for PEACE, SECURITY, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, EDUCATIONAL AND POLITICAL JUSTICE IN LIBERIA.

The Liberian Social Justice Foundation has carefully examined the administrative and operational policies of both the past and present administration in Liberia, and in our candid opinion, much more needs to be done to help Liberia go in the direction she needs to go. We as Liberians must try to have a positive influence on the selection of the national programs and the corresponding leadership which will inevitably affect our lives and the lives of our people for many years to come.

My fellow Liberians and Friends of Liberia, the Liberian Social Justice Foundation has embarked on a mission to ensure that PEACE, UNITY, SECURITY, FREEDOM AND SOCIAL JUSTICE prevail in Liberia. This is an awesome responsibility that can only occur if we cooperate as a team. History will judge us not by what we say, but by what we do. With God and the determined mind, there is nothing we cannot achieve for our Liberian Society. It is in this light that I urge you to support and contribute to the Liberian Social Justice Foundation's programs.

Liberia, the African nation established in the 1800s by freed American slaves, has been torn by civil war since 1989. What does the Liberian Civil War meanto Americans in terms of health care, humanitarian relief, stability throughout Africa and the continuation of missionary work? If you share in the dream of peace in Liberia, a country founded upon American ideals, you are invited to become more informed by writing to the LIBERIAN SOCIAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION, POST OFFICE BOX 31438, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45231. (513) 931-1872.

I am writing to introduce you to the Liberian Social Justice Foundation, Inc., a broad-based social nonprofit organization. The mission of the LSJFI is two-fold: we are dedicated to restoring a just and stable society in Liberia, and to improving the quality of life for all Liberians, both at home and abroad.

On behalf of our members, I appeal to you for financial assistance in support of LSJF activities. An application for membership is included which contains a breakdown of membership fees. Please know that any amount you can contribute will be helpful to us. Your support of the Foundation, and your awareness of its concerns is deeply appreciated. Should you have any questions or suggestions, please feel free to write us or call. Thank you for your time, your contribution, and your generosity. Checks and money orders should be made payable to the Liberian Social Justice Foundation, Inc.

Best regards,

Edwin G.K. Zoedua
Executive Director/Chairman